

Message Text

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H - MR. DLATEN

EUR/P - MR. JERABEK

IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

NEA/ARN - MR. CAROLAN

AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY SANA

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
CINCEUR

UNCLAS STATE 170366

E.. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL
CINCEUR FOR POLAD

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING JULY 18:

P. HOW AND WHEN WILL AMBASSADOR DINITZ' LATEST VIEWS ON
ISRAEL'S POSITION ON THE SINAI SETTLEMENT BE TRANSFERRED OR
TRANSMITTED TO EGYPT?

A. THEY WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO EGYPT BY AMBASSADOR EILTS.
AS I MENTIONED YESTERDAY, AMBASSADOR EILTS WILL BE LEAVING
OVER THEWEEKENDMOST PROBABLY. AND THE SECRETARY WILL
OBVIOUSLY BE SEEING AMBASSADOR EILTS AGAIN. HE SAW HIM
YESTERDAY, BUT HE WILL BE SEEING HIM AGAIN BEFORE HE LEAVES.
AND THE AMBASSADOR WILL TRANSMIT THE LATEST ISRAELI VIEWS
TO THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT.

Q. HOW DID THE TALKS GO TODAY, AS FAR AS THE SECRETARY IS
CONCERNED?

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A. WELL, ON THE BREAKFAST, THE ONE-HOUR BREAKFAST THIS
MORNING, THEY CONTINUED THEIR DISCUSSION OF YESTERDAY;
SOME FURTHER POINTS WERE CLARIFIED, AND AS A RESULT OF THIS
WE WILL NOW BE IN TOUCH WITH THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT.

Q. WHY WAS A SECOND MEETING NECESSARY?

A. BECAUSE THEY DID NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME YESTERDAY
TO COMPLETE THEIR DISCUSSION OF THE LATEST ISRAELI VIEWS
THAT AMBASSADOR DINITZ BROUGHT BACK FROM ISRAEL.

Q. ARE THESE DISCUSSIONS INVOLVING NOW SOLELY THE EGYPTIAN
-ISRAELI FAITOR, RATHER THAN THE U.S.-ISRAELI ASSURANCES?

A. I CANNOT GET INTO THE SUBSTANCE OF THE DISCUSSIONS.

Q. DINITZ SAID THAT THE U.S. NOW HAS A PRETTY COMPREHENSIVE PICTURE OF WHAT THE ISRAELI NEGOTIATING POSITION IS. IS THAT ACCURATE? ARE YOU SATISFIED?

A. THAT IS ALSO OUR VIEW, YES.

Q. THE SECRETARY HAD SOME QUESTIONS, YOU SAID YESTERDAY, AND HE EXPECTED SOME ANSWERS FROM THE AMBASSADOR. DID HE GET THE ANSWERS TODAY TO HIS QUESTIONS?

A. HONESTLY, I PRESUME THAT IN THE CONTINUED DISCUSSIONS TODAY THAT, AS I SAID EARLIER, FURTHER POINTS WERE CLARIFIED. I WOULD ASSUME THAT THESE FURTHER POINTS THAT WERE CLARIFIED MAY HAVE BEEN ANSWERS TO CERTAIN QUESTIONS THE SECRETARY MAY HAVE RAISED YESTERDAY. BUT I DON'T KNOW THE SPECIFICS.

Q. THERE WAS A REPORT IN THE EGYPTIAN PRESS YESTERDAY THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS DECIDED TO SUPPLY F-15S AND MISSILES TO ISRAEL. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON THAT?

A. I DO NOT.

Q. IS THE REPORT INACCURATE?

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A. I DO NOT KNOW.

Q. WAS THERE ANY CONTACT WITH THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT BETWEEN YESTERDAY'S AND TODAY'S DINITZ MEETINGS?

A. WE HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT, BOTH HERE AND WITH THE EGYPTIAN MISSION UP IN NEW YORK ON THE UNEF QUESTION, WHICH WE ARE OBVIOUSLY HOPEFUL THAT THIS

PROBLEM WILL BE ABLE TO BE WORKED OUT VERY SOON. BUT WITH REGARD TO THE DINITZ TALK, I DO NOT KNOW ON THAT.

Q. DID THESE PROPOSALS IN ANY WAY FIGURE INTO THAT DISCUSSION CONCERNING THE RENEWAL OF UNEF -- BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT UNRELATED.

A. I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THEY ACTUALLY FIGURED IN.

Q. WHAT IS THE PRESENT UNDERSTANDING OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT ON THE STATUS OF UNEF? WILL IT HAVE TO LEAVE ON JULY 24 OR WILL IT NOT?

A. ON THAT, I TALKED TO THE SECRETARY THIS MORNING AND HE SAID, LOOK, WE ARE TRYING TO WORK THIS PROBLEM OUT AND HOPE THAT EVERYTHING WILL BE ABLE TO BE WORKED OUT, NATURALLY SO THAT THE UNITED NATIONS FORCE CAN REMAIN THERE. WE ARE WORKING ON IT. AND I JUST HAVE TO LEAVE IT THERE AT THIS TIME.

Q. DO YOU HAVE A LEGAL OPINION, THOUGH, WHETHER IN THE ABSENCE OF SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION THAT FORCE CAN REMAIN IF IT WERE NOT ORDERED OUT?

A. I DO NOT HAVE A LEGAL OPINION ON THAT. THIS IS OBVIOUSLY ONE OF THE SUBJECTS THAT IS UNDER DISCUSSION IN NEW YORK, NOT ONLY WITH THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT, BUT WE ARE TALKING INFORMALLY WITH VARIOUS MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON THIS WHOLE QUESTION RIGHT NOW. BUT I DO NOT HAVE A LEGAL OPINION.

Q. COULD I JUST FOLLOW THAT UP? WOULD THE UNITED STATES UNCLASSIFIED

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OPPOSE A SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION WHICH SAID THAT THE RENEWAL OF THE FORCE MUST BE LINKED TO FURTHER ISRAELI WITHDRAWALS -- THAT SECOND PHRASE ON "FURTHER ISRAELI WITHDRAWALS".

A. I THINK AT THIS PARTICULAR POINT, WHILE WE ARE TRYING TO WORK OUT THIS PROBLEM, THAT IT JUST WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL TO SPECULATE ON A HYPOTHETICAL RESOLUTION THAT MAY OR MAY NOT BE PROPOSED IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

Q. THE EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR MADE IT CLEAR THAT THAT IS WHAT THEY WANT, SO IT IS NOT SO HYPOTHETICAL, I DON'T THINK.

A. I THINK WE WILL JUST HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT IS ACTUALLY PROPOSED AND CROSS THAT BRIDGE WHEN WE COME TO IT.

Q. DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT FEEL THAT THERE IS SOME NEED, OR SOME USEFULNESS TO BE SERVED BY REWRITING PERTINENT UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS REGARDING ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM SO-CALLED OCCUPIED ARAB LANDS?

A. IT IS MY VERY CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT WE CONTINUE TO STAND FULLY BEHIND RESOLUTIONS 242
ND 338.

Q. DO YOU THINK THEY NEED REVISION?

A. I DO NOT THINK THEY NEED REVISION. AND I KNOW OF NO PLAN TO REVISE SUCH RESOLUTIONS.

Q. DID YOU MAKE IT CLEAR TO THE EGYPTIAN MISSION IN NEW YORK THAT YOU STAND BEHIND THESE TWO RESOLUTIONS?

A. WELL, THIS HAS BEEN OUR PUBLICLY STATED POSITION ALL ALONG ON THESE RESOLUTIONS. WHAT I AM SAYING NOW IS NOTHING STARTLINGLY NEW AT ALL.

Q. DOES YOUR COMMENT ABOUT THESE UN RESOLUTIONS NOT NEED-
ING REVISION MEAN THAT THIS PLAN FOR A RESOLUTION ON AN
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EMERGENCYFORCE IS NOT NEEDED AS FAR AS THE U.S. IS CONCERNED?

A. THAT THIS WHAT?

Q. THAT THE STEPS OR THE CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION --
ANOTHER RESOLUTION -- ON THE UN EMERGENCY FORCE, IS NOT
NEEDED.

A. I THINK FRANKLY ON THIS QUESTION THAT IS BEING DISCUSSED RATHER INTENSELY IN NEW YORK NOW TRYING TO RESOLVE THE UNEF QUESTIONS, I THINK I BETTER JUST LEAVE IT AND NOT MAKE ANY MORE COMMENTS BECAUSE IT IS A DIFFICULT PROBLEM AND WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT IT WILL BE SOLVED. BUT I DON'T THINK ANY COMMENTS BY ME HERE ARE GOING TO CONTRIBUTE TO THAT SOLUTION, FRANKLY, ESPECIALLY ON SPECULATIVE ELEMENTS HERE.

Q. WHY HAS AMBASSADOR PICKERING FROM JORDAN BEEN RECALLED TO WASHINGTON?

A. HE HAS COME BACK FOR NORMAL CONSULTATION.

Q. IS IT IN CONNECTION WITH THE SENATE'S AND THE HOUSE'S CONSIDERATION OF THE HAWK DEAL?

A. HE HAS BEEN OR WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH THE HILL ON THIS

QUESTION, YES. I BELIEVE HE MAY HAVE ALREADY BEEN TALKING WITH SOME PEOPLE.

WILL LOOK INTO IT AND SEE IF I CAN GET YOU SOME DETAILS.

Q. WILL THE TIMETABLE FOR DELIVERY OF THE MISSILE SYSTEM AS OUTLINED BY THE NEW YORK TIMES, AND NOT THE STATE DEPARTMENT, BUT I ASSUME IT IS CORRECT -- WILL IT BE FOLLOWED NOW?

A. BARRY, I WOULD HAVE TO LOOK INTO IT. I DIDN'T CHECK THAT ONE OUT TODAY. I APOLOGIZE.

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Q. WELL, SIMPLY PUT, ARE YOU PLANNING TO SUPPLY JORDAN WITH THE MISSILE SYSTEM THAT WE NOW UNDERSTAND IS A LARGER DEAL, THANKS TO THE NEW YORK TIMES' REPORTING?

A. LET ME JUST LOOK INTO THE QUESTION, WILL YOU, AND LET ME HAVE A TALK WITH ROY ATHERTON, BECAUSE I DIDN'T GO INTO THIS QUESTION AT ALL TODAY. I WAS AWAY WHEN HE WAS TESTIFYING ON THE HILL ON THIS WHOLE SUBJECT, AND I WOULD LIKE TO ALSO REVIEW WHAT HE HAD TO SAY ON IT.

Q. WHILE YOU ARE LOOKING INTO THAT, WOULD YOU ALSO CHECK ON WHY -- AND I HAVE CHECKED THIS OUT -- WHY, AS REPORTED ISRAEL WAS AT FIRST TOLD THAT IT WOULD BE A DEAL OF \$100, MILLION AND IT IS NOW A DEAL OF \$340 MILLION?

A. LET ME SEE WHAT I CAN FIND OUT. I DON'T KNOW THAT THE FIGURES ON THIS PACKAGE --

Q. I HAD HEARD \$160 MILLION AND \$340 MILLION, BUT THE TIMES REPORTED \$100 MILLION AND \$340 MILLION, AND I'LL ACCEPT THAT.

A. ALL RIGHT.

Q. THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN SOME PEOPLE ON THE HILL THAT HAVE SAID THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS REJECTED A COMPROMISE THAT SOME OF THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS HAVE PROPOSED ON THIS HAWK DEAL THAT WOULD REDUCE THE NUMBER OF BATTERIES FROM FOURTEEN TO A LESSER NUMBER OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS. DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THAT?

A. I AM UNAWARE OF ANY SPECIFIC COMPROMISE PROPOSALS, AS YOU PUT IT, AND I AM ALSO UNAWARE, COMPLETELY UNAWARE, OF ANY SUCH REJECTION, NATURALLY, BECAUSE I HAVE NOT HEARD OF ANY SPECIFIC FORMAL COMPROMISE PROPOSALS.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY DETAILS, FURTHER DETAILS, ON TURKEY'S REACTION AT THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE? I THINK THERE WAS A LITTLE BIT OF AMBIGUITY. CBS TODAY SAID THAT TURKEY CHANGED ITS POSITION UNDER PRESURE FROM THE U.S. IS THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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TRUE?

A. ON THAT POINT -- INCIDENTALLY, RON NESSEN MADE A VERY BRIEF STATEMENT ON THIS QUESTION OVER AT THE WHITE HOUSE

THAT YOU MIGHT WANT TO GET HOLD OF. IN ESSENCE IT IS WHAT I SAID TO YOU YESTERDAY. IN ANSWER TO YOUR SPECIFIC QUESTION THAT REPORT IS NOT TRUE. THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT, ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE, INFORMED US OF ITS POSITION AT JIDDA ON THIS MATTER.

Q. DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE POSITION IS? I HAVE HEARD TWO VERSIONS. ONE, THAT IT JUST DOESN'T ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH THAT POSITION; AND TWO, I HAVE HEARD IT SAID THAT TURKEY HAS SAID IT WOULD ACTUALLY VOTE AGAINST OUSTING ISRAEL FROM THE UN IF IT CAME TO A VOTE.

A. THE ONLY THING I CAN GIVE YOU, AS I SAID YESTERDAY, IS WHAT THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT TOLD US. AND THAT'S THAT, THE TURKISH OFFICIALS WE TALKED WITH SAID THAT TURKEY DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THOSE MEETINGS IN JIDDA THAT DEALT WITH THE RESOLUTION RELATING TO ISRAEL. THEY DID NOT PARTICIPATE DURING THE DRAFTING OF THE RESOLUTION OR WHEN IT WAS ADOPTED. AND THAT TURKEY DOES NOT FEEL BOUND BY THE RESOLUTION. AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY HAS INFORMED THOSE CONCERNED OF THIS POSITION.

ON BACKGROUND, THERE WAS ONE ADDITIONAL BIT OF INFORMATION THAT I OBTAINED AFTER THE BRIEFING YESTERDAY AND THAT IS IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT WITH THESE RESOLUTIONS THAT WERE TAKEN AT THE ISLAMIC SUMMIT, NO VOTES WERE TAKEN AT ALL ON THE RESOLUTIONS. YOU KNOW, YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO RAISE YOUR HAND, AND THERE WAS NO FORMAL VOTING TAKEN.

Q. HAVE YOU HAD ANY CONTACT FROM TWO OTHER AMERICAN ALLIES, IRAN AND PAKISTAN, AND INDONESIA, WHICH ALSO IS A CLOSE FRIEND OF THE U.S., ON WHETHER THEY SHARE TURKEY'S VIEW, OR WHAT?

A. WELL, I DO NOT KNOW. YOU ASKED ME ABOUT IRAN YESTERDAY. I DO NOT KNOW. I HAVE NOT CHECKED INTO THAT AND I WILL.

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Q. HAVE WE SOUGHT THEIR VIEWS ON THIS? HAVE WE QUESTIONED THEM ON IT?

A. TO MY KNOWLEDGE, WE HAVE NOT QUESTIONED THEM.

Q. THIS BECOMES RATHER CRITICAL, BECAUSE THOSE RESOLUTIONS ALSO CONCERN ECONOMIC RELATIONS, AND IRAN HAS SAID THAT IT WOULD CONTINUE TO SEND OIL TO ISRAEL IN THE CASE OF A NEW AGREEMENT WHEN ISRAEL WOULD NO LONGER HAVE OIL FROM ABU RUDEIS. SO IF IRAN IS NOT EXPLICITLY DISSOCIATING ITSELF FROM IT, THAT COULD BECOME A RATHER INTERESTING QUESTION.

A. ONE THING -- TO BE HONEST WITH YOU -- I HAVE NOT SEEN

THE TEXT OF ALL THE RESOLUTIONS THAT WERE PASSED.

Q. WELL, COULD WE FIND OUT IF WE HAVE MADE -- I AM NOT ASKING IF WE WAITED FOR IRAN TO COME TO US. I AM ASKING IF WE HAVE GONE TO THEM AND SAID WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

A. ON THIS PARTICULAR QUESTION, YES. AND I WOULD LIKE TO SEE WHAT THE TEXT OF ANY RESOLUTION MIGHT HAVE BEEN WITH REGARD TO THE SUBJECT YOU JUST RAISED. I WILL DEFINITELY LOOK INTO THAT.

Q. YOU DENIED THE CBS REPORT. IN OTHER WORDS, YOU ARE SAYING THERE WAS NO COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY QUESTIONING THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY WHY THEY APPARENTLY WENT ALONG WITH THIS RESOLUTION?

A. WELL, THE CBS REPORT, AS BERNIE MENTIONED EARLIER, AND AS I RECALL, INDICATED THAT THERE WAS SOME U.S. PRESSURE ON TURKEY TO REVERSE ITS STAND ON THIS QUESTION. AND I WAS ASKED ABOUT THAT REPORT, AND I SAID IT IS NOT TRUE.

Q. WELL, IF WE ARE SPLITTING HAIRS, LET ME FOLLOW THAT UP. WAS IT BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT, EITHER HERE OR IN ANKARA, THAT ITS VOTE FOR THIS REYOLUTION, IF IT REMAINED STANDING, MIGHT DAMAGE THE MOVE HERE
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TO TRY TO RESTORE ARMS AID TO TURKEY?

A. AS FAR AS I KNOW, IF YOU WANT TO PUT IT THAT WAY, I ALSO SAY NO, RIGHT. THERE WAS NO PRESSURE IN ANY WAY.

Q. IS THE STATE DEPARTMENT PLEASED THAT THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT HAS ISSUED THIS CLARIFICATION TO THE UNITED STATES?

Q. I SUPPOSE OBVIOUSLY YES. THE REASON I AM HESITATING IS YOUR WORD "CLARIFICATION". THERE WAS A NEWS REPORT THAT WAS INACCURATE AND -- WELL, I GUESS IT IS A CLARIFICATION, YES. THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT WANTED TO CLARIFY A NEWS REPORT THAT WAS INACCURATE, WHICH SAID THAT IT HAD

VOTED FOR THIS RESOLUTION. AND THEY ALSO INFORMED US OF THEIR POSITION.

Q. THAT IS WHAT THEY DID SPONTANEOUSLY.

A. YES.

Q. CAN I ASK ANOTHER QUESTION. ON THE SCOTT RESOLUTION

THAT WAS APPROVED BY THE SENATE TODAY, DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THAT?

A. WHICH ONE?

Q. THE RESOLUTION CALLING UPON THE UNITED STATES TO CONSIDER ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UN IF ISRAEL IS EXPELLED OR SUSPENDED FROM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- HUGH SCOTT INTRODUCED A RESOLUTION THAT WAS APPROVED BY THE SENATE.

A. THAT IS RIGHT. I SAW THE TICKER ON IT. ON THIS QUESTION, WE HAVE MADE OUR STAND HERE VERY, VERY CLEAR, THE SECRETARY DID IT A NUMBER OF TIMES ON HIS MOST RECENT TRIP TO MILWAUKEE AND MINNEAPOLIS, THAT WE JUST DO NOT CONSIDER THAT THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD BE USED AS A POLITICAL FORUM. AND FURTHER, THAT AS WE SAID IN THE CASE OF ACTION LAST FALL WITH REGARD TO SOUTH AFRICA, WE OBJECTED TO THAT ACTION. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DOES NOT UNCLASSIFIED

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HAVE COMPETENCE TO EXPEL MEMBERS FROM THE UNITED NATIONS. AND WE OBVIOUSLY WOULD TAKE A VERY SERIOUS VIEW IF SUCH AN ACTION WERE EVENTUALLY PROPOSED WITH REGARD TO ISRAEL.

Q. WHAT ABOUT SUSPENSION?

A. THE SAME THING.

Q. YOU MEAN THY DON'T HAVE COMPETENCE TO SUSPEND?

A. MAYBE IN SUSPENSION THEY DO.

Q. BUT YOU WOULD NOT LIKE IT IF THEY DI IT.

A. NO, I WOULD NOT LIKE IT.

Q. I MEAN THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

A. I SPEAK FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT. KISSINGER

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